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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
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EDISON MEDAL AWARDED
TO
PROFESSOR HARRIS J. RYAN ✓

The Edison Medal for the year 1925 has been awarded by the Edison Medal Committee of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers to Harris J. Ryan, of Stanford University, California, "for his contributions to the science and the art of high-tension transmission of power".

The Edison Medal was founded by the Edison Medal Association, composed of associates and friends of Mr. Thomas A. Edison, and is awarded annually by a committee consisting of twenty-four members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for "meritorious achievement in electrical science, electrical engineering, or the electrical arts."

The following men have been recipients of the medal: Elihu Thomson, 1909; Frank J. Sprague, 1910; George Westinghouse, 1911; William Stanley, 1912; Charles F. Brush, 1913; Alexander Graham Bell, 1914; Nikola Tesla, 1916; John J. Carty, 1917; Benjamin G. Lamme, 1918; W.L.R. Emmet, 1919; Michael I. Pupin, 1920; Cummings C. Chesney, 1921; Robert A. Millikan, 1922; John W. Lieb, 1923; John White Howell, 1924.

Harris J. Ryan, Professor of Electrical Engineering, Stanford University, California, was born in Powells Valley, Pa., January 8, 1866. He studied at Baltimore City College, 1879 to 1880; Lebanon Valley 1880 to 1882, and received the degree of M.E. in Electrical Engineering from Cornell in 1887. In 1888 he became a member of the Western Engineering Company at Lincoln, Nebraska, and in 1889 Instructor in charge of the electrical machinery laboratory at Cornell. From 1890 to 1895 he served as Assistant Professor of electrical engineering in provisional charge of the department and from 1895 to 1905 was Professor in charge of the department of electrical engineering. In 1905 he accepted the same position at Stanford University which he holds today. In 1909 Professor Ryan became consulting engineer for the Los Angeles Aqueduct Power Development. During the

war as a member of the Pacific Coast Section of the Submarine Group of the National Research Council he carried on valuable work and in 1918 and 1919 was in charge for the Research Council Supersonics Laboratory at Pasadena.

In the Chicago Exposition of 1893 Professor Ryan was a member of the Jury of Awards of the Department of Electricity and in 1904 was a delegate to the International Electrical Congress, St. Louis Exposition. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, member of the American Electrochemical Society, Institute of Radio Engineers, Society for Promotion of Engineering Education, American Physical Society and National Academy of Science. In 1887 he was elected an Associate of the A.I.E.E.; in 1895 was transferred to Member and in 1923 became a Fellow. He was a Director of the Institute from 1893 to 1896; Vice-President, 1896 to 1898; Honorary Vice-President representing the Institute at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, 1915; President, 1923-24; and has served on the Edison Medal, Meetings and Papers, Electrophysics, Transmission and Distribution and Research Committees.

During Professor Ryan's twenty years at Stanford, he has been a pioneering leader in high-voltage transmission, upon the development of which largely depends the future growth of the Pacific Coast region. About three years ago the first 220,000-volt power lines were successfully put into commission by California companies, and Professor Ryan cooperated with the engineers in finding ways to cope with the insulator problems encountered, and it is on the solution of similar problems that his genius in the research field is expected to continue an outstanding advantage to science.

From:

F. L. Hutchinson, National Secretary,
American Institute of Electrical Engineers,
33 West 39th Street, New York, N.Y.